

Tennessee Migrant Education Program

Migrant Student Records Transfer

Schools exchange student educational and health information in order to better meet the needs of children when they arrive in new school districts. These records help school staff enroll students, provide them with appropriate instructional and supportive services, avoid redundant testing, develop a baseline for assessing progress, and help schools in granting high school graduation credits for completed coursework. Public school districts in Tennessee are obligated to create, maintain, and transfer pupil records under 118.125 Pupil Records legislation and rules. Supplemental to these state requirements, the Tennessee Title I Migrant Education Program (MEP), has established a framework of records transfer activities under which all MEP school districts operate. The Migrant Education Program in the State of Tennessee maintains education and health information for migrant students in the MIS2000 workstation in Smyrna, Tennessee.



Under the 1994 Improving America's Schools Act (IASA), Title I, Part C legislation, Section 1304(b)(3), state educational agencies operating under the MEP, as a means for providing for educational continuity, are required to transfer pertinent student record information, including information on health, in a timely and effective manner when children move from one school to another.

Within the State of Tennessee Consolidated Plan for IASA (amended June 1997), the SEA is obligated to meet the records transfer requirements of the federal legislation and to improve intra- and interstate coordination to maximize the use of its migrant education funds and to eliminate duplication of services.

The statewide ongoing identification and recruitment of migratory children is the initial activity. This is combined with a statewide needs assessment of the population, from which students' school records are created and transferred to new schools of residency and school attendance. State training of local school district MEP recruiters occurs seasonally and as needed.

A workshop for local MEP staff responsible for pupil record maintenance and transfer is held seasonally. Further MEP technical assistance and state leadership in the maintenance and management of educational and health information is available from state MEP consultants as needed.